



**U.S. Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney's Office
Western District of Texas**

Johnny Sutton, U.S. Attorney

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Shana Jones, Special Assistant
Daryl Fields, Public Information Officer
(210) 384-7440

October 2, 2006

MOTHER & SON PLEAD GUILTY IN METHAMPHETAMINE CONSPIRACY CASE

United States Attorney Johnny Sutton announced that Anabel Gonzales Ruiz, 51, of Phoenix, Arizona and her son, Pete Cruz Flores, Jr., 34, of Midland, face a minimum of 10 and 20 years in federal prison, respectively, after pleading guilty to conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute 50 grams or more of methamphetamine. Both face a maximum of life imprisonment and a \$4,000,000 fine.

Appearing before United States Magistrate Judge L. Stuart Platt in Midland, Texas, on Friday, Ruiz and Flores admitted that in July of 2004, Ruiz and others began sending methamphetamine from Arizona to Flores in Midland where he and others were distributing it. According to testimony from prior court proceedings in the case, Ruiz was working as a secretary at the Maricopa County Public Defenders Office in Phoenix at the time. On July 20, 2006, authorities arrested Flores at the Federal Express office between Midland and Odessa as he tried to obtain a package containing methamphetamine sent by his mother.

Ruiz and Flores were among six defendants indicted in the case in July. All six have pled guilty to federal charges and are awaiting sentencing.

This case was investigated by the Midland Police Department, and prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Jeff Parras with assistance from the U.S. Attorney's Office in Arizona.

#####